



Star-Telegram

Trump tries to mend strained ties with Britain



TOM BRENNER NYT

President Donald Trump meets with British Prime Minister Theresa May on Thursday at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. Trump is scheduled to speak to the assembly Friday.

BY PETER BAKER
New York Times

DAVOS, SWITZERLAND
President Donald Trump sought on Thursday to repair a diplomatic rift with Britain, America's closest ally, after several fractious episodes culminated in his decision to cancel a scheduled visit to London, where the mayor and other political leaders declared him unwelcome.
Meeting with Prime Minister Theresa May on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum, Trump insisted that the perception of tension in the historically close British-American relationship was a "false rumor" and indicated that the two sides were discussing the possibility of a later presidential trip to the island.
"We're on the same wavelength, I think, in every respect," Trump said. "And the prime minister and myself have

“WE, TOO, HAVE THAT REALLY SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE U.K. AND THE UNITED STATES. IT'S AT EACH OTHER'S SHOULDERS. WE FACE THE SAME CHALLENGES ACROSS THE WORLD.”
British Prime Minister Theresa May

had a really great relationship, although some people don't necessary believe that, but I can tell you it's true." He expressed respect for May, and said he thought "the feeling is mutual from the standpoint of liking each other a lot," adding that the two were "very much joined at the hip" on military matters.
May was polite but less effusive and offered no personal testimonial to Trump, keeping her comments focused on their mutual national interests. "We, too, have that really special

relationship between the U.K. and the United States," she said. "It's at each other's shoulders. We face the same challenges across the world, and as you say we're willing to go and to defeat those challenges and meet them."
The meeting kicked off Trump's visit to Davos for the annual conclave of the world's economic and political elite. He flew to this mountaintop resort town ready to challenge the prevailing economic order as he takes his "America First" mes-

sage directly to the banking titans, corporate magnates and international leaders who have spent years preaching the virtues of global integration.
Before his speech to the assembled leaders scheduled for Friday, Trump used his time on Thursday to meet with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel as well as with May. He also planned to attend an evening reception being held in his honor and then be host at a dinner for European corporate executives.
The meeting with Netanyahu showcased one of Trump's strongest international relationships. To Netanyahu's delight, Trump recently discarded decades of U.S. policy to formally recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and has also threatened to pull out of a nuclear deal with Iran that the Israeli leader despises.
Trump repeated his assertion

SEE DAVOS, 5A

Trump ordered Mueller fired in June

BY MICHAEL S. SCHMIDT AND MAGGIE HABERMAN
New York Times

WASHINGTON
President Donald Trump ordered the firing last June of Robert Mueller, the special counsel overseeing the Russia investigation, according to four people told of the matter, but ultimately backed down after the White House counsel threatened to resign rather than carry out the directive.
The West Wing confrontation marks the first time Trump is known to have tried to fire the special counsel. Mueller learned



Robert Mueller

about the episode in recent months as his investigators interviewed current and former senior White House officials in his inquiry into whether the president obstructed justice.
Amid the first wave of news reports that Mueller was examining a possible obstruction case, the president began to argue that Mueller had three conflicts of interest that disqualified him from overseeing the investigation, two of the people said.
First, he claimed that a dispute years ago over fees at Trump National Golf Club in Sterling, Va., had prompted Mueller, the FBI director at the time, to resign his membership.
The president also said Mueller could not be impartial because he had most recently worked for the law firm that previously represented the president's son-in-law, Jared Kushner.
Finally, the president said, Mueller had been interviewed to return as the FBI director the day before he was appointed special counsel in May.
After receiving the president's order to fire Mueller, the White House counsel, Donald

SEE MUELLER, 12A

Tarrant focal point of Democrats' hope for 'blue wave' across Texas

BY ANNA M. TINSLEY
[atinsley@star-telegram.com](#)

FORT WORTH
Texas Democrats are targeting one of the reddest areas in the state this year and believe 2018 is the year they can finally turn Tarrant County blue.
This summer, they're holding their state convention in Fort Worth. And they're putting one of the top locally elected Democrats, U.S. Rep. Marc Veasey, in charge of the effort.
"You hear a lot lately about this blue wave that's coming all

across America," Texas Democratic Party Chairman Gilberto Hinojosa said Wednesday, during a media availability at the Fort Worth Stockyards. "The blue wave is especially strong here in Texas. And it is especially strong in North Texas."
"The biggest part of that blue wave is starting here."
That's partly why they decided to make Tarrant County — the largest urban area in Texas that remains reliably Republican — the site of their convention.
If they can encourage more people to head to the polls, and

cast their ballots for Democrats, they say they hope to reap a big gain.
"If we can make those changes here in Tarrant County, the Republican Party is done with," said Veasey, D-Fort Worth, who will chair the state convention. "It's over for them."
Republicans say turning Tarrant County, or the state, won't be easy.
After all, Texas hasn't elected a Democrat to statewide office since 1994.

SEE DEMOCRATS, 5A



NATION & WORLD

BACKING A PATH TO CITIZENSHIP

Trump presented an immigration plan that would allow 1.8 million young immigrants a chance at citizenship. 10A

LOCAL & TEXAS

MOST IN SURVEY AGAINST LAWSUIT

Councilman Cary Moon released data showing a majority in survey opposed the city joining a sanctuary lawsuit. 5A

LOCAL & TEXAS

3-YEAR-OLD FATALLY SHOT

Police are investigating a shooting that left a 3-year-old dead. 3A

CUSTOMER SERVICE

To subscribe or report delivery issues,
800-776-7827 (STAR) or [star-telegram.com/customer-service](#)

Business
Classified
Comics

6-7A
7-9B
8C

dfw.com Weekend
Lotteries
Obituaries

1C
2A
8-9A

Opinion
Puzzles
TV

11A
7C
6C



7 88727 00001 4